

We claim:

1. A method of inhibiting activation of a lymphocyte, the method comprising contacting the lymphocyte with a B7-H3 agonist and allowing the agonist to inhibit the activation of the lymphocyte.
2. The method as in claim 1, wherein the B7-H3 agonist is a soluble form of B7-H3.
3. The method as in claim 3, wherein the B7-H3 agonist comprises SEQ ID NO:15.
4. The method as in claim 2, wherein the soluble form comprises at least one V domain of B7-H3.
5. The method as in claim 4, wherein the V domain comprises: (a) SEQ ID NO:7 or (b) an amino acid sequence which is substantially identical to SEQ ID NO:7.
6. The method as in claim 4, wherein the soluble form of B7-H3 further comprises at least one C domain of B7-H3.
7. The method as in claim 4, wherein the soluble form of B7-H3 further comprises an Fc region of an antibody.
8. The method as in claim 7, wherein the soluble form of B7-H3 comprises: (a) an amino acid sequence chosen from SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, or SEQ ID NO:22; or (b) an amino acid sequence which is substantially identical to at least one of the sequences chosen from SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, or SEQ ID NO:22.

9. The method as in claim 7, wherein the soluble form of B7-H3 comprises: (a) an amino acid sequence chosen from SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, or SEQ ID NO:14; or (b) an amino acid sequence which is substantially identical to at least one of the sequences chosen from SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, or SEQ ID NO:14.

10. The method as in claim 3, wherein the B7-H3 agonist is coupled with a primary stimulatory molecule.

11. The method as in claim 10, wherein the soluble form of B7-H3 and the primary stimulatory molecule are spaced by no more than 100 μ m.

12. The method as in claim 1, wherein the B7-H3 antagonist is a nucleic acid encoding amino acid of SEQ ID NO:15.

13. A method of enhancing activation of a lymphocyte, the method comprising contacting the lymphocyte with a B7-H3 antagonist and allowing the antagonist to enhance the activation of the lymphocyte.

14. The method as in claim 13, wherein the lymphocyte is human.

15. The method as in claim 13, wherein the B7-H3 antagonist is an antibody to B7-H3 or an antibody against a B7-H3 receptor.

16. The method as in claim 13, wherein the B7-H3 antagonist is an antisense nucleic acid or a siRNA.

17. The method as any one of claims 1 or 13, wherein the lymphocyte is a T cell.

18. The method as in claims 17, wherein the T cell is a CD4⁺ T cell.

19. The method as any one of claims 1 or 13, wherein the lymphocyte is in a mammal.

20. The method as in claim 19, wherein the mammal is afflicted with or is at risk for at least one of: an immunologic disorder, a cancer, or an infectious disease.

21. The method as in claim 19, wherein the mammal is treated with Factor VIII or Factor IX.